Orange Mourns President Kennedy

ORANGE — Usually busy roads were almost deserted this morning.

The large majority of the town's businesses and industry is closed in respect to the late President John F. Kennedy. All municipal offices are closed for the day, as are the schools.

At 11 this morning a memorial service for the slain President was held on the Orange Center Green. A wreath was placed on the War Monument and Taps echoed across the historic Green. The American Legion formed a color guard to escort town officials across the street from town hall to the monument.

Town churches held memorial services throughout the day, some immediately following the community service on the Green.

At noon, a requiem high mass was celebrated at the Church of the Holy Infant on Race Brook Road. A memorial service also was held at noon at the Church of the Good Shepherd on Race Brook Road.

Previous to the service on the Green, a half-hour prayer service was conducted at the Orange Congregational Church, located adjacent to the Green, starting at 10:30 a.m.

The American flag will fly at half staff on the Green. It was placed in this position moments after it was officially announced that President Kennedy died Friday. Numerous town residents also are flying the flag at half mast on front lawns.

Tuesday, the late President Kennedy will be remembered in the town's three elementary schools. Brendan J. Touhy, superintendent of schools, said that a portrait of the late President will be draped with the American colors and black, and placed in a prominent place at each of the three schools.

Religious organizations in town have been remembering the late President in services this weekend.

To Send Message

The Rev. Francis Monahan, pastor of the Church of the Holy Infant, announced at the Sunday masses that a message will be sent to Mrs. Jacqueline Kennedy, expressing the sorrow of the parishioners of the church, and how the family has been remembered in the prayers of the parishioners.

Two church groups, the Ladies Guild and the Holy Name Society, each will have a special mass said for the President.

Three different silent prayers were rendered for the late President during Sunday services held at the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints Sunday.

The Orange Jewish Community Center Association conducted a memorial service for the late President at services held Friday night at the Orange Congregational Church.

Orange Post 127, American Legion, will hold a public memorial service at 8:30 tonight at the Veterans Memorial Building at 630 Grassy Hill Road.